UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/919
5 October 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Letter dated 1 October 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to a statement on Angola issued on 29 September 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and of its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ernst SUCHARIPA
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Angola issued on 29 September 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union expresses its deep concern on the marked deterioration in the politico-military situation in Angola. There appears to be a real risk of a return to war and of further widespread suffering for the Angolan people. The European Union remains convinced that a lasting peace in Angola can only be obtained by full compliance with the Lusaka Protocol, which, together with the "Acordos de Paz" and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, remain the fundamental basis of the peace process.

Clearly, the blame for the current impasse in the peace process rests primarily with the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) and, therefore, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1195 (1998), the European Union calls upon the UNITA leadership to comply immediately and without conditions with its obligations under the Lusaka Protocol and relevant resolutions of the Security Council, in particular the complete demilitarization of its forces and full cooperation in the immediate and unconditional extension of State administration throughout the national territory.

The European Union welcomes the decision by the Angolan authorities to reinstate UNITA members in the Government of Unity and National Reconciliation and encourages the Government to continue to exercise restraint. The European Union expresses strong support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative, Mr. Issa Diallo, in favour of the peace process, and calls on both the Government and UNITA to assist him in fulfilling his mandate.